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BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1966

H. C. WEIR, *M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.*

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Boldon Urban District Council 1966

Chairman

Councillor S. Robinson.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor L. Hannah.

MEMBERS

Boldon Colliery Ward

Coun. J. R. Pears.
Coun. E. O. Telford.

East Boldon Ward

Coun. J. C. G. Durham.
Coun. H. M. Short.

Whitburn Ward

Coun. S. Robinson
Coun. L. Hannah.
Coun. R. H. Burdsall.

New Town (Boldon Colliery) Ward

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. O. Clark.
Coun. H. Scott.

West Boldon Ward

Coun. J. Roberts.

Whitburn Colliery Ward

Coun. W. Easton.

Cleadon Ward

Coun. T. Brown.
Coun. J. Tate.

CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.

UNITED DISTRICTS OF JARROW, HEBBURN, FELLING AND BOLDON

Coun. L. Hannah.
Coun. E. O. Telford.

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. J. Roberts.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL No. 5 AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. L. Hannah.

Coun. E. O. Telford.

PREFACE

Telephone: Boldon 7241/2.

Public Health Department.
Council Offices,
East Boldon,
County Durham.

To the Chairman and Members of the Boldon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, on the health of the Urban District and the work of the Health Department for the year 1966.

The Health Statistics are set out in detail in the body of the report; there are however, certain features on which I should like to comment.

The population of the Urban District rose during the year by 160 to 26,120; although the natural increase, i.e. excess of births over deaths was 186. The birth rate showed an increase to 17.7 per 1,000 population compared with 13.5 in 1965; the standardised birth rate (i.e. corrected for age and sex distribution of the population) was 16.5 compared with the national figure of 17.7.

The Infant Mortality Rate showed a decrease to 13.2 per 1,000 live births from 24.3 in 1965, this is well below the national figure of 19.0 for England and Wales. Of the 6 infant deaths, 1 was caused by Congenital Abnormalities, and 4 by Diseases of the New-born. There was 1 infant death from enteritis.

There were 267 deaths in 1966 with a death rate of 10.22 which compares favourably with 1965 although the standardized death rate of 11.45 was less than 11.7 for England and Wales. Respiratory Disease was the next most important cause of death with 31 deaths. The deaths from Lung Cancer were again up, but I am glad to report that Clean Air zones are now starting in Boldon. The most common single cause of death was Coronary Disease, which accounted for 32 male and 30 female deaths; this represents a decrease of 22 compared with the mortality from this cause during the previous year. Deaths from Respiratory Disease were less this year, and there was a decrease in deaths from Vascular Diseases, but those from Cancer increased.

There was an increase in the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year; this was mainly accounted for by the increase in Measles notifications, with 128 cases compared with 94 during the previous year. Further references to infectious disease will be found in Section F of the report.

During the year the following staff changes took place. Mrs. C. M. Hall left to go to Australia in September, and her place as Secretary was taken by Mrs. B. L. Burdon. Mr. J. Hemsley came as Additional Public Health Inspector in May.

This is the Fourth Annual Report which I have the honour of presenting to you since my appointment as Medical Officer of Health. I wish therefore, to conclude by expressing my most sincere appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from all Members of the Council, Council Officials, and members of my staff in the Health Department.

H. C. WEIR,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the district in acres—7,640.

Estimated resident population—26,120.

Number of inhabited houses—8,645.

Number of Council houses—3,479.

Number of Council houses erected during the year—18.

Number of private houses erected during the year—99.

Rateable Value at 31st December, 1966—£734,274.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£2,822 11s. 9d.

(b) PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL

1. Description of the area.

The Urban District covers an area of 7,640 acres and is essentially rural in character with more than 50 farms or other agricultural premises. It forms a green belt between South Tyne-side and North Wearside and is roughly rectangular in shape extending inland from the North Sea coast for a distance of over six miles. In this setting there are the following five communities, Whitburn, Cleadon, East Boldon, West Boldon, and Boldon Colliery: the last of these is largely industrial and accommodates approximately one-third of the total population of the Urban District. The remainder of the Urban District is to a large extent residential and many of the inhabitants are employed outside the district.

2. Employment

Mr. T. H. Elliott, Manager of the Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied the following information relating to employment, unemployment and disablement.

MAIN INDUSTRIES

The Main Industries (in order of highest number of work-people first) are:—Coalmining, Building and Construction, Retail Distribution, Local Government (including Education etc.), Tar Macadam manufacture, Hotels (including Public Houses), Agriculture, and Electrical Engineering.

There are 51 employers in the Urban District with 4,001 employees (3,657 men and 344 women).

UNEMPLOYMENT

On the 6th December, 1966, the position was as follows:—

				Total on Register	Temporarily Stopped
Females	...	...	...	9	—
Males	...	...	...	71	2
				<hr/> 80 <hr/>	<hr/> 2 <hr/>

DISABLEMENT

There are 135 males and 11 females on the register of disabled persons. There were 13 men and no women unemployed.

All the above figures are in respect of persons over 18 years of age.

(c) EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Population estimated mid-year—26,120.

Live Births

			M.	F.	Total 1966	Total 1965
Total	...	...	215	238	453	533
Legitimate	...	...	206	223	429	519
Illegitimate	...	...	9	15	24	14
Birth Rate	...	...		17.3		
Comparability factor	...			0.93		
Standardised Birth Rate				16.1		
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)				5.3		

Still Births

			M.	F.	1966	1965
Total	...	...	3	6	9	9
Legitimate	...	...	3	4	7	9
Illegitimate	...	...	—	2	2	—
Rate per thousand live and still births	...			19.47		
Rate per thousand estimated resident population	...			0.34		
Total live and still births					462	542

Deaths

			M.	F.	1966	1965
All Causes	...	...	121	146	267	309
Death Rate	...	...	10.22			
Comparability Factor	...		1.12			
Standardised Death Rate			11.45			

Principal Causes of Death

			Total		% of total deaths	% of total deaths
	M.	F.	1965	1966	1966	1965
Heart disease (all types)	33	34	108	67	25.1	34.9
Cancer (all types) ...	32	27	52	59	22.1	16.7
Respiratory Disease ...	1	3	37	4	1.5	11.9
Vascular Disease of Nervous System ...	13	29	51	42	15.7	16.8

Infant Mortality

Under 1 Year of Age

	M.	F.	1966 Total	1965 Total
Total ...	2	4	6	13
Legitimate ...	2	3	5	13
Illegitimate ...	—	1	1	—

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births 13.2

Legitimate infants per 1,000
legitimate live births 11.7

Illegitimate live births 41.7

Deaths of infants under 4
weeks of age.

Total ...	2	3	5	10
Legitimate ...	2	2	4	10
Illegitimate ...	—	1	1	—

Neo-Natal Death Rate

(i.e. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)
11.0

Deaths of infants under one week.

	M.	F.	Total 1966	Total 1965
Total ...	1	3	4	9
Legitimate ...	1	2	3	9
Illegitimate ...	—	1	1	—
Early neo-natal mortality rate		8.8		

Causes of Infant Deaths

Diseases of Newborn ...	4
Gastro Enteritis ...	1
Accident ...	—
Congenital Malformations ...	1
Prematurity ...	—

	1966	1965
Perinatal Mortality rate	28.6	33.2
Maternal Mortality rate (including abortion)—		
Number of Deaths	Nil	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil	Nil

Comparison of Vital Statistics Rates

	England & Wales		Baldon	
	1966	1965	1966	1965
Standardised Birth Rate ...	17.7	18.0	16.5	12.5
Infant Mortality	19.0	19.0	13.2	24.3
Still Birth Rate	15.4	15.7	19.45	16.6
Standardised Death Rate ...	11.7	11.5	11.45	13.4

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1966

	Male	Female	Total	Comparison with 1965	
			1966	+	—
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	10	6	16	15	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	2	4	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	14	1	15	3	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	6	6	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	3	3	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	16	15	31	7	—
Leukaemia, Aleukamia	2	—	2	—	—
Diabetes	—	1	1	—	2
Vascular lesions of nervous systems	13	29	42	—	9
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	32	30	62	—	22
Other Heart Disease	1	4	5	—	14
Other Circulatory Disease ...	5	10	15	8	—
Pneumonia	6	8	14	—	3
Bronchitis	9	4	13	—	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	3	4	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1	2	1	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	4	4	—	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	—	1	1	—	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	1	—	1	—	—
Congenital Malformations ...	2	1	3	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	20	29	—	2
Motor vehicle accidents ...	3	—	3	—	—
All other accidents	1	4	5	—	7
Suicide	3	1	4	2	—
	131	154	285	38	67

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Staff of Health Department:—

Medical Officer of Health,

H. C. WEIR, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector,

R. W. ARMSTRONG, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.

Additional Public Health Inspector,

J. HEMSLEY, M.A.P.H.I. Commenced: 16th May, 1966.

Clerk,

MRS. B. L. BURDON, Commenced: 12th September, 1966.

MRS. C. M. HALL,

Resigned: September, 1966.

Rodent Operator,

P. C. T. JACKSON.

2. Laboratory Services

Examinations are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne, and the Public Health Laboratory, Hylton Road, Sunderland. Results and number of bacteriological examinations for the year 1966 are as follows:—

	Pos.	Neg.	Total
Faeces and Urine ...	6	11	17
Milk ...	—	15	15
Ice Cream ...	—	6	6
	6	32	38

3. National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 47—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary during the year.

Section 50—Burial or Cremation of Dead.

No action was necessary during the year.

(b) LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Under the National Health Service Act, 1949, Part III, the Personal Health Services are provided by Durham County Council and administered through the Area Health Sub-Committee on which Boldon U.D.C. is represented by three members.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

(Section 22)

Ante-Natal

The following figures show the number of expectant mothers who attended the Clinics, and the number of visits which these mothers paid to the Clinics.

Number of Mothers	...	...	143
Attendances	...	...	483

Child Welfare

Sessions: Alternate Mondays and Tuesday mornings at the Child Welfare Clinic, Boker Lane, East Boldon.

Thursdays at the Barnes Institute, Whitburn.

Alternate Mondays at the Church Hall, Cleadon.

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the Clinics and the number of attendances of these children throughout the year.

	No. of Children.			Attendances.		
	Under 1	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	Under 1	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.
Whitburn	94	101	164	905	214	269
Boldon	170	194	303	1715	538	382
Cleadon	51	71	147	639	198	176

MIDWIFERY

(Section 25)

There are 2 County Midwives in Boldon (one vacancy). No midwives practice privately in the area.

During the year they attended 196 confinements, which represents 44% of all registered live and still births.

Domiciliary Confinements

Doctor	Booked	Not		Analgesia		Trilene
		Booked	Gas & Air	Pethidine		
Present at delivery	95	—	82	37		44
Not present	89	—	58	69		—
	196	—	140	106		44

HEALTH VISITING

(Section 24)

Four Health Visitors serve the Urban District. The following domiciliary visits were paid during 1966.

Maternity and Child Welfare	...	...	6922
Tuberculosis	...	...	166
Mental Deficiency	...	...	153
Schools	...	...	598
General Health	...	...	50
Aged People	...	...	672
			8561

The percentage of ineffective visits made was 14.3%

HOME NURSING

(Section 25)

The following visits were made by Home Nurses in the area.

	Cases	Visits
Medical	275	9134
Surgical	74	2517
Tuberculosis	9	223
Others	—	51
Total	<u>358</u>	<u>11925</u>

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

(Section 26)

The following tables give the number of children vaccinated and immunised at the clinics and by General Practitioners in the district.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Under 1	1-4	5-15	Under 16	1-15	16 and over	Total
14	220	21	28	19	73	92

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

(given either singly or in combination)

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
128	249	258	635	206	936	1142

WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION

(given either singly or in combination)

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
128	248	12	388	198	50	248

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

(given with Diphtheria or Diphtheria/Whooping Cough)

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
128	249	261	638	206	516	722

B.C.G. VACCINATION

Number of children skin tested	...	...	170
Number of children positive	...	...	9
Number of children negative	...	...	151
Number absent at time of reading	...	...	10

AMBULANCE SERVICE

All requests for ambulance transport should be made to the Ambulance Control Centre, telephone Durham 4488.

HEBBURN DEPOT

Journeys	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	Mileage
10460	4953	2893	37846	202979
	No. of Ambulances		10	
	No. of Drivers		31	

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE (Section 28)

Cases discharged from hospital and requiring after-care are treated by home nurses or supervised and advised by the Health Visitors. Sick room equipment such as urine bottles, bed pans, bed rests, air cushions, mattresses, and rubber sheeting can be had on loan.

During the year 72 persons received equipment on loan.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE (Section 29)

No. of Home Helps employed	...	...	...	...	57
No. of cases attended at 1.1.66	...	...	...	...	88
No. of new cases provided with Home Helps	...	...	...	...	35
No. of cases attended at 31.1.66	...	...	...	...	86
Type of cases served:—					
Old Age Pensioners	...	...	...	...	105
Sickness	...	...	...	...	8
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1
Maternity	...	...	...	...	9
Total					123

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959

Mental Subnormal

Under Supervision	...	...	...	...	60
In Hospital	...	...	...	...	17
					77

Mentally Ill

Formal and Informal admissions arranged by Mental Welfare Officers	...	...	...	13
Children notified during the year as:—				
Ineducable	...	...	...	2
Requiring supervision after leaving school	...	...	...	4
				<hr/> 6

(c) HOSPITAL SERVICES

The only Hospital situated in the Urban District is Boldon Hospital which now accommodates mild mentally ill cases. There are 30 beds.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS

The following number of patients were treated at the Sunderland, South Shields, and Newcastle Clinics during 1966.

	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Non-Venereal	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Sunderland	—	1	2	1	5	1
South Shields	2	—	1	2	—	2
Newcastle	1	—	—	—	2	—
	3	1	3	3	7	3

BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Mr. G. Tait Hunter, the Regional Organiser, has kindly supplied details of the donor panels and the sessions in Boldon during the year.

Date of Sessions	No. of Donors attending
8th February	102
23rd August	101
Donor panel 31/12/66 ...	176
New Donors bled during 1966 ...	11

(d) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Urban District is served by five General Practitioners residing in the district.

Dr. A. Forbes, 7 Station Terrace, East Boldon.	Boldon 7408/7289
Dr. Keatings, 15 Station Road, East Boldon.	Boldon 7168
Dr. J. J. Kinsella, 7 Station Terr., East Boldon.	Boldon 7408/7289
Dr. L. Ingram, Osborne House, West Boldon.	Boldon 7515
Dr. J. W. Salkeld, 4 East Street, Whitburn.	Whitburn 2340

Doctors from South Shields, Jarrow, and Sunderland also attend patients in this district.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

To the Medical Officer of Health,

Sir,

During 1966 the appointment of an Additional Public Health Inspector has made a very great difference to the running of the environmental services of the Council. Many duties which were being carried out only in a perfunctory way can now be given much more time, resulting in the work being more efficiently done.

A new Clerk was also appointed after the resignation of Mrs. Hall and she also has settled into the departments routine very well.

By the end of the year I am satisfied that steady progress was made in maintaining the good standards of sanitation which the Urban District possesses.

My thanks are due to the Members of the Council for their encouragement, and to the Officials and Staff of all other departments for co-operation so willingly provided in many ways.

R. W. ARMSTRONG,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES

The district is supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company, whose Engineer provided the following information:—

Analysis of Water Supply.

(1) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year, 1966.

(2) Bacteriological examinations have been made during the year from the various deep wells and other sources which constitute the supply, also from reservoirs and consumer taps. The following results were obtained:—

	No. of Samples.	% Free from Non-Faecal Organisms.	% Free from Faecal Organisms.
Wells and other sources (untreated)	1,334	198.8	85.6
Reservoirs	414	100	100
Consumer taps	1,049	100	100

(3) The water has no detectable plumbo-solvent action.

(4) There has been no contamination and therefore no action has been necessary.

(5) There are 7,939 domestic premises connected to the Company's mains in the area. There are no standpipes in the area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

2,781 yards of drain were examined during the year, nearly all being private dwellings built in the area. This was about the same as last year.

The work is generally of good standard and mostly of standard glazed pipes, although some pitch fibre pipes are used.

The sewerage of the district appears to be quite adequate. The untreated sewage discharges to the sea and into the tidal waters of the River Tyne.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There has been no change in the numbers of ash and chemical closets, the few remaining are in parts of the district where there are no sewers and the cost of installing septic tanks or cesspools would be uneconomic.

Estimated figures are:—

Type of Closet	1964	1965	1966
Ash Closets and Privy's	14	14	14
Water Closets	9,226	9,474	9,591
Chemical Closets	12	12	12

RIVERS AND STREAMS

No formal action was necessary, but the Northumberland River Board cleared part of the River Don in an attempt to eliminate flooding, of land surrounding some Council houses. Unfortunately more rubbish was deposited shortly afterwards.

SCHOOLS

No complaints were received about the sanitary condition of schools in the district. Several schools were treated for the destruction of rats or mice with good results.

Water supplies in schools are all from service mains of the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company, and are satisfactory.

It was not necessary to take any special action in respect of infectious disease in school children.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of household refuse is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Surveyor in a satisfactory manner. The refuse is disposed of by tipping on Sunderland Corporation Tip which is just outside the southern boundary of the district.

A problem which is causing increasing trouble is the dumping of rubbish in roadside ditches and verges, usually at night and without any consideration for people living nearby.

PIG FARMS

There are about 12 commercial piggeries in the district and conditions in a minority of them leave a great deal to be desired. In one case drainage was causing the fouling of an adjoining ditch. This was remedied, but the provisions of the Public Health Acts are not very helpful in these cases.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

In December the Council decided that steps should be taken to implement the provisions of this Act with regard to Clean Air zones. Although at the end of the year a definite programme had not been formulated, it is the Council's firm intention to proceed along the lines of converting all their own properties as quickly as possible to the burning of smokeless fuel; and to require that all new developments shall be smokeless at the outset.

The programme will be arranged for the conversion of private properties and it is hoped that the action to be taken over the next 5-10 years can be decided in the early spring of next year.

RAG FLOCK ACT 1961

There are no registered premises within the Urban District at which upholstering or stuffing of flock filled articles is carried on,

87 visits were made to premises registered as factories in this district.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

(1) Inspections for purposes as to health made by Public Health Inspector.

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by Local Authority	3	19	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	32	51	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ..	11	27	—	—
Total	46	97	—	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	—	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	2	—	1	—

Outworkers (Sections 133 and 134).

There are no persons registered as outworkers in this district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Investigations are made of cases of infectious disease and arrangements made for the disinfection of houses if necessary.

DISINFESTATION OF HOUSES

98 requests for assistance in freeing premises infested with vermin were received. Most of the complaints were due to cockroaches, and spraying and dusting with insecticides was found effective in all these cases, but some were for infestations of clover mites.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

A total of 238 visits were made and no very serious breaches of the Act were discovered. A total of 141 premises are registered and 556 persons employed in them. 100 defects were found under this Act and 51 were remedied.

A summary below shows the type of defects found:—

	Defects	
	Found	Remedied
Section 4—Cleanliness	10	5
Section 6—Temperature	9	3
Section 7—Ventilation	4	1
Section 8—Lighting	5	1
Section 9— Sanitary Accommodation		
Defective	6	3
Section 10— Washing facilities		
Insufficient	7	5
Section 11—Water supply	—	—
Section 12—Clothing accommodation	9	7
Section 13—Chairs—Shops	7	4
Chairs—Offices	—	—
Section 15—Meal facilities	1	—
Section 16—Floors, passages and stairs	9	6
Section 17—Fencing of machinery	1	—
Section 24—First Aid Kit	14	8
Section 50—Abstract	18	8
No Registration Form	—	—
	<hr/> 100	<hr/> 51

The tables below are in the form laid down in the Annual Reports Order 1964, as follows:—

TABLE A—REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Totals	—	141	142
Office	—	18	14
Retail Shops	—	105	110
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	—	1	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	16	17
Fuel storage depots	—	1	1
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year.	Total number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection.

**TABLE B—NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY
INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES**

238

**TABLE C—ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE**

Class of Workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	125
Retail shops	292
Wholesale departments, warehouses	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	135
Fuel storage depots	3
Total	555
Total Males	171
Total Females	384

The remainder of the tables D and E dealing with applications for exemption are nil, and two inspectors are appointed to administer the Act.

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT

No applications were received for exemptions from any of the provisions of the Act.

REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number Reported	Total No. Action Recommended					No Action
		Investi gated	Prosecu- tion	Formal Warning	Informal Advice		
Offices	3	—	—	—	—		—
Retail Shops	2	2	—	—	—		—
Wholesale Shops							
Warehouses	—	—	—	—	—		—
Catering Establish- ments open to public, canteens	—	—	—	—	—		—
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—	—	—		—
Totals	5	2	—	—	—		—

ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail Shops	Ware- houses	Catering Establish- ments open to public canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
Machinery	—	—	—	—	—
Transport	—	—	—	—	—
Falls of persons	3	—	—	—	—
Stepping or striking against object or person	—	1	—	—	—
Handling goods	—	1	—	—	—
Struck by falling object	—	—	—	—	—
Fires and Explosions	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools	—	—	—	—	—
Not otherwise specified	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION D

HOUSING

Good progress was made in the inspection of houses which are to be included in future slum clearance programmes. The Council's programme in this matter was delayed due to administrative difficulties in the development of the building sites owned by the Council, but these are now overcome and the construction of new houses commenced which will mean that there should be about 40 houses demolished in the coming year and the cleared site will then become the first stage of a redevelopment programme for Boldon Colliery.

HOUSING ACT 1961

This deals with houses in multiple occupation and there are no houses in the district to which the Act applies.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Council have actively encouraged the issue of grants since December, 1954, and since then 408 applications have been considered, 35 were refused; usually on the grounds that the regulations were not being complied with, and of the remainder agreed to, 279 were discretionary and 97 were standard.

During the year 23 applications were agreed to, 12 of these were discretionary and 11 for standard grants.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Public Health Acts

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	186
Number of visits made	...	...	...	261

Under Housing Acts

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	107
Number of visits made	...	...	...	187
Cases of overcrowding investigated	...	...	...	—
Number of new houses built and occupied during the year	...	...	...	117
Total number of visits made in connection with the above	...	...	...	448

					Total since 1954
Number of houses demolished or closed	...	...	...	16	267
Number of persons displaced	...	...	...	32	887
Number of families rehoused	...	...	...	11	261
Number of houses repaired under the Public Health Act after formal notices by the Local Authority	...	...	...	13	
Number of houses repaired under the Housing Act after formal notices by the Local Authority	...	...	...	Nil	
Number of houses repaired as a result of informal action	...	...	...	6	
Houses at which other matters were remedied under the Public Health Act	...	...	...	1	
Total Number of defects remedied	...	...	...	92	
Total number of dwellings on Rate Book at year end	...	...	...	8645	
Boldon Urban District council houses	...	...	...	2819	
Jarrow Corporation Houses	...	...	...	634	
Durham County Council houses	...	...	...	26	
Agricultural houses	...	...	...	89	
Private houses	...	...	...	5077	

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in this district.

CARAVAN SITES

There are three sites in the district which are licenced for use during the summer months for holiday purposes. The largest has

about 65 caravans, the next about 14, and the third three. They are all on farm lands and the farmers are responsible for the provision of water supply, water closets and arrangements for the deposit and collection of refuse. All are reasonably well looked after.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

561 visits were made to the 127 premises in the district in which food is prepared, stored or sold. The standard of most of these premises is good. They are roughly classified as follows but certain businesses deal in one or more main lines.

Confectioners	...	11	Fresh Fish	...	5
Butchers	...	15	Fish Fryers	...	6
Cafe	...	4	Grocers	...	37
Canteens	...	5	Greengrocers	...	9
Chemists	...	6	Licenced Clubs	...	6
Public Houses	...	16	Off Licences	...	11

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

As far as can be ascertained there are about 29 milk dealers in the district.

MILK SAMPLES

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1959, the Durham County Public Health Inspector submits samples for various tests and the year's results were as follows:—

Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
134	127	7

ICE CREAM

6 samples of Ice Cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, and all passed the tests satisfactorily.

MEAT INSPECTION

There are no premises in the district used for the slaughter of livestock, and it has therefore, been necessary to inspect only small quantities of meat in retail shops, on routine visits and sometimes at the request of the butcher. It was not necessary to condemn any meat as unfit.

OTHER FOODS

No difficulty is encountered in securing the surrender and destruction of foodstuffs which are unfit for human consumption. Most of the tradesmen seek advice on any food which is doubtful, and willingly surrender any which is unfit. All the businesses are retail, and it has not been necessary to examine any very large stocks of food.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and destroyed:—

69 lbs. tinned meats.
106 tins fruit.

SALE OF UNFIT FOODSTUFFS

About 3 complaints were received of foodstuffs being unsatisfactory but on investigation none of these justified legal action by the Council. One person was given an Official Warning.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

Durham County Council are the responsible Authority for the administration of the sections of the Food and Drugs Act which deals with adulteration and abstraction of substances from food. The Weights and Measures Department carry out the duties of Sampling Officers, and during the year 1966, 99 were taken, of which 34 were of milk. All were found to be genuine.

PETROLEUM ACT 1928

27 visits were made during the year, and there are now 27 licenced premises in the district.

The Durham County Fire Prevention Department advises on the condition of every storage place, and each licensee was requested to comply with the Department's recommendations,

SHOPS ACT 1928

This work is done on a part time basis by a man who is employed also as a Rodent Operative, and in the year he made 110 visits.

The following table shows the position with regard to the statutory notices which should be displayed:

No. of shops in the district	...	...	...	...	...	150
Nos. displaying notice of half holiday	...	...	...	...	...	73
Nos. not displaying notice of half holiday	...	...	...	...	...	27
Nos. displaying notice of Sunday trading	...	...	...	...	...	15
Nos. not displaying notice of Sunday trading	...	...	...	...	...	12
Nos. displaying notice of assistants half holiday	...	...	...	...	...	47
Nos. not displaying notice of assistants half holiday	...	...	...	...	...	38
Nos. displaying notice of Sunday employment and holidays	...	...	...	...	...	11
Nos. not displaying notice of Sunday employment and holidays	...	...	...	...	...	13

SECTION F

Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during 1966 was 166 compared with 123 during the previous year. This substantial increase was largely accounted for by the rise in Measles notifications from 94 in 1965 to 128 in 1966. The most significant changes compared with the previous year, were the increased incidence of Dysentery and Tuberculosis. There were also slight decreases in Pneumonia, and Whooping Cough.

Measles

The usual bi-ennial epidemic pattern was maintained and as expected there was a substantial increase in the number of cases notified; there being 128 cases compared with 94 during the previous year. The cases notified during 1966 occurred in the regular pattern throughout the year which showed peaks in the winter and summer months.

Whooping Cough

There were 6 cases notified during the year compared with 8 cases the previous year and 13 in 1964. There is no doubt of the value of immunisation against this disease which is offered both by General Practitioners and Local Authority Clinics, and it is hoped that more mothers will avail themselves of this aid to the health of their children.

Dysentery

There were 11 cases of Sonne Dysentery notified during 1966 compared with 2 cases during the previous year. This is still a satisfactorily low figure in view of the fact that Sonne Dysentery to some extent is endemic in the area; no doubt many mild or sub-clinical cases are never brought to light.

Food Poisoning

It is again pleasing to record that there were no cases of Food Poisoning. Improved standards of hygiene are evident in both catering establishments and in the domestic sphere, and it is most important that these be maintained.

Poliomyelitis

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis notified during the year. Continued propaganda is therefore essential to enable this disease to be finally eliminated from our midst.

Tuberculosis

There were 16 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis notified in 1966 compared with 5 cases during the previous year, with 1 reported death. There were no cases of non-respiratory Tuberculosis notified during the year. This is not a very satisfactory state and it cannot be too strongly emphasised that every child should be fully immunised against this disease as this is the only possible way of keeping it at bay.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Summary for five year period, 1962-1966.

	Population.	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Pulmonary T.B.	Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Food Poisoning	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Poliomylitis	Paratyphoid	Dysentery
1962	23,280	—	—	4	23	3	—	4	—	43	—	1	—	5
1963	24,310	—	—	11	7	2	—	5	—	283	6	—	—	3
1964	25,460	—	—	9	4	3	1	6	1	161	18	—	—	12
1965	25,960	—	—	3	5	5	1	5	—	94	8	—	—	2
1966	26,120	—	—	3	16	—	—	2	—	128	6	—	—	11

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1966

Diseases	All Ages									65 and over.	Unknown	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total 1966	Total 1965	Increase or decrease 1966
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64							
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	7	2	—	—	16	5	+11	
Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—5	
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	+9	
Non-Respiratory	1	—	1	1	2	2	2	—	—	2	—	11	2	—	
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	5	—3	
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—1	
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—2	
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	6	8	—2	
Measles	12	32	36	43	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	128	94	+34	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
												166	123	+43	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1966

[illegible]

TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the incidence of new cases and of deaths from tuberculosis over the last 20 years.

Year	Population	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
1946	15,850	19	6	10	4
1947	16,090	11	11	8	5
1948	16,310	11	4	5	3
1949	16,870	16	6	6	1
1950	17,100	20	7	8	1
1951	16,740	18	5	4	2
1952	17,150	19	2	1	—
1953	17,440	16	2	3	—
1954	17,600	16	6	3	—
1955	18,020	5	5	2	1
1956	18,390	18	3	5	1
1957	18,960	14	2	2	—
1958	19,540	9	1	2	—
1959	20,230	13	2	2	—
1960	20,810	9	—	2	—
1961	22,540	9	1	—	—
1962	23,280	23	1	3	—
1963	24,310	7	—	2	—
1964	25,460	4	1	3	—
1965	25,960	5	1	5	—
1966	26,120	13	1	—	—

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